

What I claim is:

1. An improved dual level waffle iron apparatus comprising:

a first pair of waffle grids comprised of a first center grid and a first rotatable grid;

a second pair of waffle grids comprised of a second center grid and a second rotatable grid;

said first and second center grids being located proximate each other; and

means for rotating said grids about the longitudinal axis of said dual level waffle iron apparatus;

wherein said first center grid and said second center grid include a plurality of waffle cavities and a plurality of channels, said channels extending between each pair of adjacent said cavities.

2. The improved dual level waffle iron apparatus as set forth in claim 1, wherein said first center grid and said second center grid further include a plurality of grooves located between adjacent said cavities.

3. The improved dual level waffle iron apparatus as set forth in claim 2, wherein each of said grids include twelve of said cavities.

4. The improved dual level waffle iron apparatus as set forth in claim 2, wherein said first center grid and said second center grid are attached to a central waffle iron section by a plurality of hinges along one edge, said grids being rotatable about said hinges during unloading.

5. The improved dual level waffle iron apparatus as set forth in claim 4, wherein said first and said second center grid further includes a knob located opposite said hinges, said knob providing a means for rotating said grid about said hinges.

6. The improved dual level waffle iron apparatus as set forth in claim 5, further including an unloading frame having a support and a steam pan, said support raising said steam pan to a level allowing the contents of said grid to drop into said steam pan following rotation of said grid about said hinges.

7. The improved dual level waffle iron apparatus as set forth in claim 6, wherein said unloading frame further includes a stop, said stop providing a means for dislodging the contents of said cavities from said grid.

8. The improved dual level waffle iron apparatus as set forth in claim 7, further including a first cover member located proximate said first rotatable grid and a second cover member located proximate said second rotatable grid wherein each of said waffle iron assemblies further includes an air spring, said air spring being capable of supporting said cover member in a substantially vertical position and slowing the speed of said cover member travels while closing.

9. The improved dual level waffle iron apparatus as set forth in claim 8, further including a means for adjusting the distance between said center grids and said rotatable grids.

10. The improved dual level waffle iron apparatus as set forth in claim 9, wherein said means for adjusting the distance includes a plurality attachment assemblies, each said attachment assembly including a first nut cup, a second nut cup, a spring, and a bolt, said spring supplying a force upon said cover member thereby reducing the separation distance between said rotatable grid and said center grid.

11. The improved dual level waffle iron apparatus as set forth in claim 10, further including an elongated handle allowing the operator to grip said handle during the rotation of said first and said second iron assemblies about the longitudinal axis.

12. The improved dual level waffle iron apparatus as set forth in claim 11, further including a pair of arrows, said arrows indicating to the operator the direction of rotation about the longitudinal axis in which said grids travel.

13. The improved dual level waffle iron apparatus as set forth in claim 12, further including a first indicator light and a second indicator light, said first indicator light indicating when the contents of the first set of grids have completed a cooking cycle, said second indicator light indicating when the contents of the second set of grids have completed a cooking cycle.

14. The improved dual level waffle iron apparatus as set forth in claim 13, further including an electronic control panel having a first display and a second display for monitoring the cooking time of the waffle batter, said first display and said first indicator light each including a first indicator and said second display and said second indicator light each including a second indicator, said first and said second indicator allowing the operator to determine which of said indicator lights corresponds to which of said displays.

15. An improved dual level waffle iron apparatus comprising:

a first horizontal waffle iron assembly having a cover member, a first frame, a central waffle iron section, and a pair of waffle grids comprised of a first center grid and a first rotatable grid;

a second horizontal waffle iron assembly having a cover member, a second frame, a central waffle iron section, and a pair of waffle grids comprised of a second center grid and a second rotatable grid;

said first frame having a means for opening and closing said cover member relative to said central waffle iron section of said first waffle iron assembly;

wherein said first frame and said second frame each include a means for varying the vertical distance between each said rotatable grid and each said center grid while said cover member is closed.

16. The improved dual level waffle iron apparatus as set forth in

claim 15, wherein said means for varying the vertical distance between said first grid and said second grid comprises an adjustment mechanism including a bolt, a first nut cup, a second nut cup, a sleeve, and a spring, said bolt extending through said frame with a first end of said bolt being coupled to said rotatable grid and a second end of said bolt being retained by said sleeve, said spring being retained between said first end and said second end.

17. The improved dual level waffle iron apparatus as set forth in claim 15, further including a yoke and a base, said yoke coupling said central waffle iron section to said base wherein a plurality of pins extend from said yoke and engage a plurality of dimples in said base for preventing the undesired rotation of said yoke.

18. An improved dual level waffle iron apparatus comprising:

- a first horizontal level waffle iron assembly;
- a second horizontal level waffle iron assembly;
- a yoke coupling said first waffle iron assembly to said second waffle iron assembly;
- a base for supporting said yoke and allowing said yoke to rotate about the longitudinal axis of said waffle iron apparatus; and
- a mechanism for preventing the rotation of said yoke about the longitudinal axis of said dual level waffle iron.

19. The improved dual level waffle iron apparatus as set forth in claim 18, wherein said mechanism includes a plurality of pins and a plurality of dimples.

20. The improved dual level waffle iron apparatus as set forth in claim 19, wherein said pins are located in said yoke and said dimples are located in said rear portion.

21. The improved dual level waffle iron apparatus as set forth in claim 19, wherein said pins are spring loaded.

22. The improved dual level waffle iron apparatus as set forth in claim 20, further including a spring providing a force upon said yoke, said force directing said yoke toward said rear portion.

23. The improved dual level waffle iron apparatus as set forth in claim 18, wherein said base further includes a roller assembly having a plurality of grooved rollers and a plurality of springs, said grooved rollers supporting a portion of said first or said second waffle iron assembly, said springs providing a force in the direction to cause said yoke to engage said rear portion.

24. The improved dual level waffle iron apparatus as set forth in claim 23, further including a means for adjusting the distance from said first grid array to said second grid array when said first cover member is closed.

25. A dual level waffle iron assembly, comprising:

a central waffle iron section, having upper and lower grids;

an upper cover portion movable to cover said upper grid, having a grid complementary with said upper grid;

a lower cover portion movable to cover said lower grid, having a grid complementary with said lower grid; and

a latching mechanism independently latching said upper and lower cover portions to said central waffle iron section.